

QA-255  
Ginsburg House  
Queenstown  
Site

circa 1840  
demolished 1977

The Ginsburg House was constructed circa 1840 and, until its demolition, was among the few pre-Civil War structures surviving in the center of Queenstown. Reused beaded ceiling joists visible in the cellar indicated that some materials were salvaged from an 18th century building.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Ginsburg House (site)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Northwest side of square. Maryland Avenue &amp; Main Street (MD Rr. 1B)

CITY, TOWN

Queenstown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☒ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER: vacant**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Charles E. Smith

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

P.O. Box 147

CITY, TOWN

Grasonville

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21638

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: CWC 117

Folio #: 84

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ginsburg House was located on the northwest side of the "square" in the center of Queenstown. The house and an adjoining store building were demolished in October 1977, shortly before the present survey was undertaken. This description is based on a verbal description by James T. Wollon (AlA) of Havre de Grace and a series of color slides taken by Chip Bohl (AlA) of Annapolis in October 1976.

The house was of brick construction, 2 1/2 stories high, five bays wide, and one room deep, with flush brick chimneys at each end of a pitched gable roof. A two story brick lean-to projected from the northeast end of the rear facade, and a small one story frame addition extended from the rear wall of the lean-to.

The front facade faced southeast across the square. The entrance door was centered on the first floor with 9/6 windows on the first floor and 6/6 windows on the second floor. The brickwork was covered with a coat of stucco; the eaves were finished with a box cornice, and the roof was

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

covered with asphalt shingles. A small entrance porch protected the door. On the northeast gable, there apparently was one 9/6 window to the right of the chimney, no openings on the second floor, and a pair of smaller windows flanking the chimney in the upper gable.

The northeast two bays of the rear facade was covered by the brick lean-to. A frame one story lean-to across the southwest wall of the rear lean-to covered the center bay of the main house on the first floor. There was one 9/6 window in the southeast bay on the first floor, and 6/6 windows in the southeast and center bays on the second floor.

The rear lean-to had also been covered with stucco. A stuccoed brick chimney protruded from the southwest corner of the wing. There was one 6/6 window centered on the second floor of the southwest wall. On the rear wall, the frame addition covered the left bay on the first floor, leaving one window opening to the right. Two 6/6 windows were symmetrically placed on the second floor.

Mr. Wollon recalls that the interior was relatively plain, with six-panel doors on the first floor and beaded

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

batten doors on the upper floor, but little else in the way of detail. The most significant features were the beaded joists reused in the first floor framing, visible from the cellar. These were placed both right-side-up and upside-down, and retained original wrought flooring nails.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

8/26/80

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

